



Public Comment on the Public Health Study of Fracking

1 message

Brett Wiley <brett.wiley@groundswell.org>

Fri, Oct 3, 2014 at 12:25 PM

To: dhmh.envhealth@maryland.gov

Hello,

Groundswell is a non-profit promoting renewable energy consumption in Maryland. Accordingly, we are alarmed that Maryland's health study of the natural gas industry and its potential impacts in our state does not address climate change.

We have followed the arguments that the shale gas boom is part of a bridge to renewable fuels, and we believe this is a seriously misguided notion. Climate change is happening faster than predicted and brings with it serious health threats, such as increased disruption of health services during power outages, increased insect-borne disease, and heat waves. The evidence that gas drilling releases significant amounts of methane is mounting. We do not have time to invest in energy sources that increase greenhouse gases.

Maryland's evaluation of the Marcellus Shale opportunity must include the climate impacts and the associated health threats. We urge the State of Maryland to recognize that any investment in natural gas will divert industry and government resources from developing the safer and healthier renewable sources we need. Before deciding to drill in Maryland's Marcellus Shale, please evaluate the climate impacts and their health effects.

in community,
Brett Wiley | Director of Energy Programs

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